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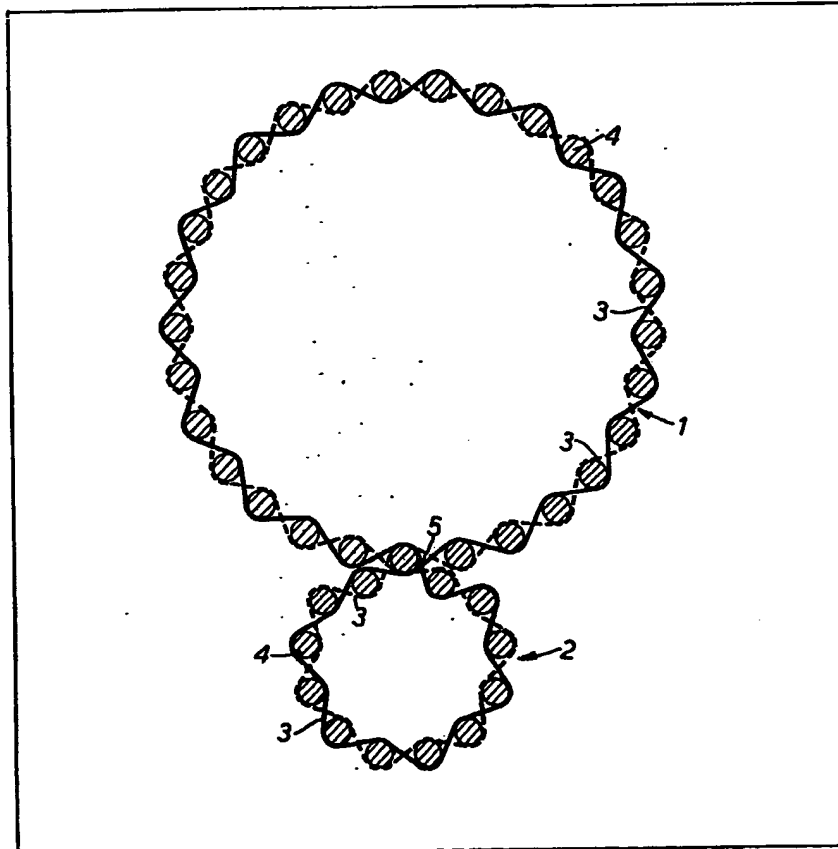
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(54) Improvements relating to
flexible tubes having mounting
flanges

(57) A flexible tube (1) of textile
material for conveying air or gas, is
provided with a mounting flange (2)

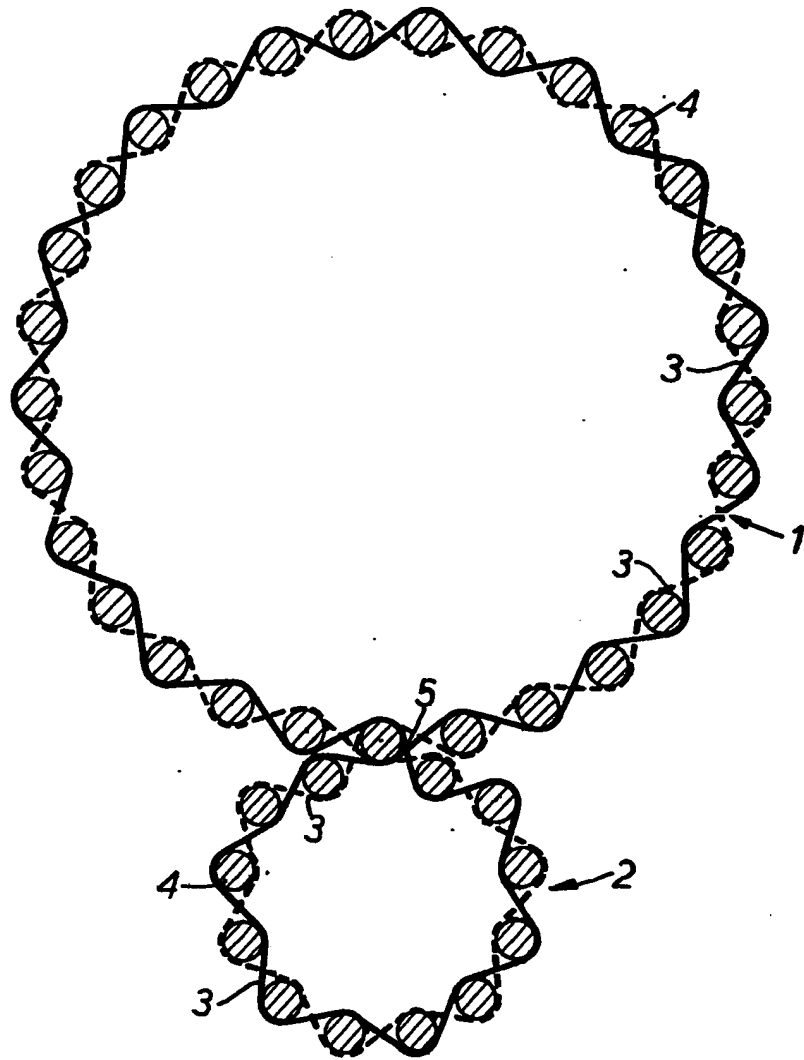
which is such that when viewed in
transverse cross-section it is in the
form of an eye suitable for
accommodating lengths of mounting
means, the said flange (2) forming an
integral unit with the wall of the tube
(1).



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SPECIFICATION

Improvements relating to flexible tubes having mounting flanges

5 The present invention relates to flexible tubes of textile material, provided with mounting flanges.

To enable flexible tubes made of coated or uncoated sheet textiles to be used, for example in air-conditioning installations or in mines, it is usually desirable to provide on the tubes means for mounting the tubes. These means generally consists of rings or holes by means of which the tube can be suspended. However, the subsequent attachment of the rings to a finished hose not only entails an additional operation, but also jeopardises the reliability of the entire pipe system.

In our British patent application No. 5489/78 there is disclosed a flexible tube of textile material provided with a mounting flange forming an integral unit with the wall of the tube and serving to receive mounting elements.

We have now found that for many uses, instead of said mounting elements, a satisfactory arrangement is obtained if the tube is arranged to be connectable with lengths of continuous suspension or mounting means such as rods, ropes or chains.

It is an aim of the present invention to provide a flexible tube having a mounting flange which enables the said lengths of continuous suspension or mounting means to be connected to the tube.

According to the invention there is provided a flexible tube of textile material for conveying air or gas, provided with a mounting flange which is such that when viewed in transverse cross-section it is in the form of an eye suitable for accommodating lengths of mounting means, the

40 said flange forming an integral unit with the wall of the tube.

Preferably, the flange is formed by the weave of the weft thread of the material which forms the wall of the tube.

A specific embodiment of the invention will now be described, by way of example only, with reference to the accompanying drawing, which shows a diagrammatic transverse cross-section through a flexible tube in accordance with the present invention.

50 Referring to the drawing there is shown a flexible tube 1 of textile material provided with a mounting flange 2. It will be seen from the drawing that the flange 2 is hollow and is eye-shaped when viewed in transverse cross-section. The tube and flange are formed by the manner in which a plurality of warp threads 4 are woven by weft threads 3. The weft threads 3, together with warp threads 4, form the walls of both the tube 1 and the eye-shaped flange 2, with the tube and flange intersecting at 5. The intersection 5 can be made of any desired width.

CLAIMS

1. A flexible tube of textile material for conveying air or gas, provided with a mounting flange which is such that when viewed in transverse cross-section it is in the form of an eye suitable for accommodating lengths of mounting means, the said flange forming an integral unit with the wall of the tube.

70 2. A flexible tube according to Claim 1, wherein the flange is formed by the weave of the weft thread of the material which forms the wall of the tube.

75 3. A flexible tube of textile material for conveying air or gas, substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the accompanying drawing.